

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APP. NO. 10/748,168

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-16 are pending in the Application.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Martini et al (USP 6,675,015) in view of Mitts et al (USP 5,940,371).

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Analysis of the Rejection of Claims 1-16

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner cites Fig. 1 and Col. 5, lines 55-63, of Martini et al as teaching a host controller interface provided with a handoff buffer for buffering at least one of Host Controller Interface (HCI) data and transmission data, and for exchanging said at least one of HCI data and transmission data with an external device, and forwarding information among nearby access points. The Examiner acknowledges that “Martin does not teach a microcontroller for forwarding a new access point said at least one of HCI data and transmission data buffered in the handoff buffer if a message indicating setup completion of a connection with the external device is transmitted from the new AP after a handoff occurs and the external device moves, in a state where the new AP is interlinked with the external device. Mitts teaches that the unsent buffer information from the old base station is forwarded to the new base station after the new base station has completed the establishment with the external station or handover (see column 5 and lines 30-53). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

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invention was made to combine the teaching of Mitts with the Martini's system such that there would be redundancy of transmission." Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's reasoning.

First, Applicant submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to modify the teaching of Martini et al with the teaching of Mitts, as proposed by the Examiner. Martini teaches facilitating handovers by collecting information about base stations and providing the collected information to a mobile station to permit the mobile station to become pre-synchronized to the target base station prior to the handoff. See col. 5, line 55 to col. 6, line 24. Mitts teaches that during the handover process an old base station informs the new base station that it has terminated downlink data transmission and sends those buffered cells that had perhaps not been transmitted to the new base station or informs it about which cells are involved. See. Col 5, lines 34-40. Applicant submits that the teaching of Mitts is not compatible with the teaching of Martini.

In more detail, because Martini teaches that the mobile station and the target base station are pre-synchronized, there would be no need or desire to buffer unsent cells, as there would be no unsent cells. Pre-synchronization would eliminate the issue of unsent cells. Therefore, there would be no motivation to modify Martini to add a buffer to store unsent cells since such a buffer would not be useful.

Second, Applicant submits that the references do not teach or suggest a message indicating setup completion of a connection with the external device transmitted from the new AP after a handoff occurs, as required by claim 1.

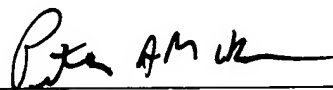
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Because the Examiner has used arguments similar those put forth to reject claim 1 to reject the other independent claims, Applicant submits the arguments on behalf of the patentability of claim 1 also apply to independent claims 5, 9 and 13. Additionally, the dependent claims should be allowable at least by virtue of their dependence from claims believed to be allowable.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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